

MICRO-INVASIVE BREAST BIOPSY DEVICE

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 An apparatus for removing tissue and/or other material
from a patient, particularly a breast of a patient, is
provided. The apparatus generally includes a handpiece and
a tissue removal mechanism connected thereto. The tissue
removal mechanism includes a cannula having an open distal
10 tip and an outer diameter of less than about 5 mm, or less
than about 2 mm. The mechanism further includes a
rotatable element having a distal portion with helical
threading. The distal portion of the rotatable element
extends beyond the open distal tip of the cannula in order
to allow tissue to prolapse between turns of the helical
15 threading. The apparatus is designed to draw soft tissue
into the cannula upon rotation of the rotatable element and
without the need for supplemental sources of aspiration.